

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed July 26, 2004, Applicants amend their application and request reconsideration. In this Amendment, claims 2, 3, and 5 are cancelled and new claims 11-18 are added so that claims 1, 4, and 6-18 are now pending.

Claim 1, as examined, inadvertently referred to a "selection device" and "device for selection". In the embodiments of the invention described in the patent application there is only example of such a selection device. Therefore, in all of the claims now presented, only a single such term is employed to avoid confusion.

Although certain examined claims were rejected over prior art, the Office Action stated that claims 3 and 6-8 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. In this response, claims 3, 6, and 7 are substantially rewritten in independent form as amended claims 1, 6, and 7, respectively. There are three deviations from directly writing those claims in independent form. Claims 6 and 7 include a limitation taken from claim 3 referring to a plurality of input sockets to ensure that reference to those input sockets in amended claims 6 and 7 has proper antecedent basis. Claim 5, as examined, was open to objection on this point but the issue was not raised. In addition, in each of the independent claims, the reference to a relay in examined claim 2 is replaced by a reference to a "means for activating the microprocessor" to avoid an unnecessary and undue limitation. In view of the concession of allowability of claims 3, 6, and 7, it is believed that the independent claims presented here are likewise allowable.

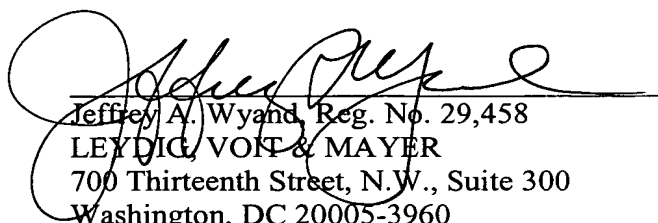
The remaining examined claims all depend from a claim acknowledged to be allowable.

Newly added claims 11-18 are derived from original claims 7-10 and depend from claims indicated to be allowable. These claims were present originally based on the multiple dependencies eliminated in the Preliminary Amendment.

In re Appln. of ARNOUX et al.
Application No. 10/620,799

All claims now pending are in form for allowance. Therefore, prompt and favorable examination of the claims now pending is appropriate and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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